

University of Denver
Colorado Seminary

25 Sep 63
Dept. of Physical Education
and Athletics

University Park, Denver 10, Colorado

D. September 13

Dear John,

As you are interested in Latvians who could possibly work for Roten (Red) something came into my mind: his name is Vitolds Pormanis, emigrated to the United States either in 1948 or in 1949. He was one of the first persons who received the American visa. I remember very well that Latvian circles in Germany discussed this matter very much at that time.

P[ormanis] was a student at the University of Riga, he belonged to the "Lettonia" fraternity and he, an excellent sprinter, was a member of the University track squad. He was known to us for his national and patriotic attitude.

However to our greatest surprise, both to myself and to many other friends, who knew him well, he collaborated with the NKVD during the first Russian occupation.

During the summer 1941 we found P.'s secret reports among documents which had been left behind by the NKVD. As far as I remember these papers concerned information about anti-Communist minded people and about persons who worked for the Latvian underground. P. was arrested and remained in custody for several months. I think that I, myself, interrogated him several times. As far as I could see it P. was then considered a "lost cause".

Because of his parents' and relatives' influence and on account of the

SECRET

3

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2008

good relations they had established with the German Security Police, P. was, to our admiration [it is meant: amazement], released. Whether he was later forced to work as a Gestapo agent I cannot say; however, after his release our circles (Latvian State Police) suspected him of being a Gestapo agent. Perhaps I could obtain his address in the States by means of the "Lettonia" fraternity in Denver provided that you are interested in him.

P.S.

0 picture enclosed

Ed

LAIPENIEKS

- 4 -

SECRET